

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1553.

SWAZILAND

REPORT FOR 1930

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PREFACE.

History and Geography.

The Swazis are akin to the Zulu and other tribes of the south-eastern littoral. Up to about 100 years ago they occupied the country just north of the Pongolo river, but a hostile Chief in their vicinity forced them farther north and, under Chief Sobhuza they then occupied the territory now known as Swaziland. This Chief, who died in 1839, was succeeded by Mswazi II. The further order of succession has been Ludonga, Mbandeni, and Bhunu, whose son, Sobhuza II, was installed as Paramount Chief in 1921, after a long minority, during which his grandmother, Labotsibeni, acted as Regent.

The many concessions granted by Mbandeni necessitated some form of European control, notwithstanding that the independence

* In this Report the Financial Statements, which are for the year ended 31st March, 1931, are preliminary and not completely audited. All other details are for the calendar year 1930.

of the Swazis had been guaranteed in the Conventions of 1881 and 1884, entered into between the Government of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria and the Government of the late South African Republic. In 1890, soon after the death of Mbandeni, a Provisional Government was established representative of the Swazis, and the British and the South African Republic Governments. In 1894, under a Convention between the British and the South African Republic Governments, the latter was given powers of protection and administration, without incorporation, and Swaziland continued to be governed under this form of control until the outbreak of the Boer War in 1899.

In 1902, after the conclusion of hostilities in the Transvaal, a Special Commissioner took charge, and, under an Order in Council (1903), the Governor of the Transvaal administered the territory, through a local officer, until the year 1907, when under an Order in Council (1906), the High Commissioner assumed control and established the present form of administration. Prior to this, steps had been taken for the settlement of the concessions and their partition between the concessionaires and the natives. The boundaries of the mineral concessions were also defined and all monopoly concessions were expropriated. Title to property is therefore now clear. In this connexion a case brought by the Paramount Chief was dismissed, on appeal, by the Privy Council (1926).

An elected Advisory Council, representative of the Europeans, was established in 1921, to advise the Administration on purely European affairs. The Fourth Council was elected in October, 1928.

Swaziland lies between the eastern slopes of the Drakensberg mountains, which form the eastern border of the Transvaal, and the low-lying lands of Northern Zululand and Portuguese East Africa.

It is bounded on the north, west, and south by the Transvaal, and on the east by Portuguese territory and Tongaland, now part of the Natal Province, and is about the size of Wales, its area being 6,704 square miles. A little more than one-third of the Territory is native area and the remainder is owned by Europeans.

Description.

The Territory is divided geographically into three longitudinal regions roughly of equal breadth, running from north to south, and known locally as the high, middle, and low or bush veld. The high veld portion adjoining the eastern Transvaal consists of mountains, part of the Drakensberg range. These mountains rise in parts to an altitude of over 5,000 feet.

The middle veld is about 2,000 feet lower, while the bush veld, bounded on the east by the Ubombo mountains, has a height of from 300 to 1,000 feet rising on the Ubombo mountains to 1,500 feet.

Both the rainfall and the temperature vary considerably with the altitude of the meteorological stations, which are under the control of the Chief Meteorologist of the Union Government. The average rainfall at two stations was :—

Mbabane (3,800 feet), 55.95 inches over 25 years.

Bremersdorp (2,175 feet), 37.33 inches over 25 years.

The mean summer and winter temperatures were 68° Fahr. and 62° Fahr. respectively.

The three principal languages are English, Afrikaans, and Swazi. British, Transvaal, and Union of South Africa currency is in circulation. Imperial weights and measures are in use, and Cape land measure.

I.—GENERAL.

His Excellency the High Commissioner and Her Royal Highness Princess Alice paid a farewell visit to the Territory in August. Meetings were held with the European community and with the Paramount Chief and natives, at which regret was expressed at the approaching conclusion of Lord Athlone's term of office and appreciation and gratitude for the interest shown by Their Excellencies in the welfare and progress of the Territory.

The honour of a C.M.G. was conferred on the Resident Commissioner, Mr. T. Ainsworth Dickson, M.C., amongst the Birthday Honours.

The deaths occurred of Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Gilson, D.S.O., O.B.E., formerly Assistant Commissioner commanding the Swaziland Police, and later a member of the European Advisory Council, and of Mr. T. A. Steward, Assistant Commissioner, Mbabane. Colonel Gilson served in Natal and in the Rhodesian Police prior to his transfer to this Territory and his services covered a period of 35 years. Mr. Steward served for 25 years. Both these officers rendered distinguished services. Mr. Steward was succeeded by Mr. S. B. Williams.

Two meetings of Assistant Commissioners and senior officials were held at headquarters for the discussion of administrative questions.

The committees elected to advise on matters affecting the various townships continue to do good work. Revised regulations were issued for the control of urban areas.

Two meetings of committees elected to represent the views of coloured persons and educated natives were held, one at Mbabane and one at Bremersdorp.

Meetings between the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief were held monthly and a number of meetings of native Chiefs with the district officers were also held, at which matters of importance to the natives were discussed.

During the year 33 trade marks were registered. European immigrants and emigrants numbered 161 and 55 respectively.

The last census of population was held in May, 1921. The total number of Europeans then was 2,205 and is estimated now at 2,650. The Bantu population in 1921 was 110,295, the number of females being a little in excess of males. The Bantu population is estimated now to be 120,000.

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the financial year ended on the 31st March, 1931, amounted to £89,604 which is £21,487 less than the revenue for the preceding year and £8,246 less than the estimate.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £116,603 which is £2,620 less than the expenditure for the preceding year and £2,246 less than the estimate.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

| | | Revenue. | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | 1926-27. | 1927-28. | 1928-29. | 1929-30. | 1930-31. |
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Ordinary ... | ... | 87,246 | 85,116 | 91,767 | 102,923 | 86,691 |
| Extraordinary ... | ... | 5,413 | 6,217 | 4,592 | 8,168 | 2,913 |
| | | Expenditure. | | | | |
| | | 1926-27. | 1927-28. | 1928-29. | 1929-30. | 1930-31. |
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Ordinary ... | ... | 85,542 | 88,631 | 104,088 | 109,647 | 114,344 |
| Extraordinary ... | ... | 26,619 | 15,022 | 27,943 | 9,576 | 2,259 |

The reduction in the revenue compared with the previous year is due mainly to the fact that in 1929-30 unusual payments for Transfer Duty, Concession Rents, and Sales of Crown Lands were received. Further, the collections under most of the principal heads of revenue were reduced owing to the low prices prevailing in outside markets for the principal products of the country and there was a considerable drop in Customs revenue.

Colonial Development Fund.

A programme of works was authorized at a cost of £15,290 to be met by a loan under the Colonial Development Act. Expenditure amounting to £11,892 was incurred during the year under this head, the balance to be completed in 1931-32. This expenditure has been devoted almost wholly to the improvement of communications and medical services. Grants amounting to £13,074 were received.

Loans to Settlers.

Under the Swaziland Land and Agricultural Loan Fund Proclamation, 1929, 33 applications for loans amounting to £12,460 were received during the year. The sum of £9,636 was issued to eighteen

borrowers. The loans varied in amounts from £50 to £1,000 and were for the purposes of fencing, boring for water, erection of cattle dips, purchase of land, and release of mortgages.

Swazi National Fund.

Expenditure amounting to £6,042 was incurred out of the Swazi National Fund which was instituted in 1911 for the purpose of carrying out projects for the direct benefit of natives. The sum included £2,134 which was spent on the buildings and equipment of the new Swazi National School. The sum of £2,220 was also spent out of the Fund on native education.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt amounted to £55,000 consisting of (1) the Swaziland Consolidated Loan amounting to £35,000 bearing interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, and repayable by a Sinking Fund in 19 years from the 1st April, 1924. The amount standing to the credit of the Sinking Fund on the 31st March, 1931, was £11,973. (2) The Swazi Nation Trust Fund £20,000 bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

Assets and Liabilities.

On the 31st March, 1931, liabilities exceeded assets by £68,683 inclusive of the Swazi Nation Trust Fund mentioned above, an increase of £25,817 during the year.

Income Tax.

The receipts from normal income tax amounted to £2,597, and the receipts from Super Tax to £218.

The following shows the classification of the sources of the incomes subject to the tax:—

| | Per cent. |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Mining | 19 |
| Trading and farming | 50 |
| Civil Servants | 22 |
| Professions | 9 |

III.—PRODUCTION.

(1) Stock.

East Coast Fever.—There was one outbreak involving the death of one animal which has been dealt with as East Coast Fever, though there is some doubt as to the actual nature of the disease. Only one other area, in the Mankaiana district, has been infected since 1929. The cattle in the area itself and the surrounding areas were collected into concentration camps and since then a steady improvement has taken place. Most of the infected area has been free from

disease for twelve months and the last death was in April, 1930. There are three dipping tanks in this area and with a continuance of the present inspection and supervision it is hoped that the area will be free of the disease during 1931.

Scab.—Twenty-three outbreaks were reported. In March and April all the sheep in the highlands and midlands were sheared, dipped, and examined, and the Principal Veterinary Officer is satisfied that all cases of infection were discovered and dealt with. Seven cases of scab were discovered amongst sheep from the Union wintering in Swaziland.

Anthrax.—Two cases occurred. With the large increase of cattle, which entails closer grazing and more contact, it is possible that these outbreaks may increase. Fortunately, owing to the present-day methods of vaccination, the outbreaks are easily controlled and the mortality is low. The vaccine is supplied by the Union Government; 2,100 doses were used.

Contagious Abortion.—In native areas there are communal grazing grounds and drinking pools where cattle from a large area gather and it is impossible to do very much against this disease. There were only isolated outbreaks.

Black Quarter.—7,570 doses of Black Quarter vaccine were issued.

Sweating Sickness.—This is the cause of many deaths in some parts.

Heartwater.—This disease appears to be on the increase but the Principal Veterinary Officer considers it is due to the increase in the number of cattle. The percentage of deaths is no greater, special measures are now being taken to deal with this disease.

Horse Sickness.—This disease was not severe during the year.

Dipping Tanks.—There were 167 dipping tanks in operation, consisting of 91 Government tanks, 16 private tanks under the control of the Administration and 60 private tanks under the control of the owners.

Export of Cattle.—12,000 head of cattle were exported for slaughter during the year, viz.: to Johannesburg 2,446, to Durban 2,475, and to Durban Cold Storage (the beef being exported overseas), 7,079.

The average price obtained on the Johannesburg and Durban Markets was approximately £6 and the average price for scrub cattle sold to the Cold Storage Company was £3. The opening of a market for scrub cattle has been the means of clearing the Territory of a large number of cattle which before, owing to the lack of a market, were almost valueless.

The drying up of a number of pools of water which were formerly considered to be permanent is due partly to the extra drain on the water by the increased herds of cattle.

(ii) Agriculture.

Agriculture shows a steady improvement, especially amongst the natives. The agricultural census returns show a great increase in stock owned by the natives. For the purposes of comparison, figures from the 1921 census and the 1930 census are shown hereunder :—

NATIVE-OWNED STOCK, ETC.

| | | Census, 1921. | Census, 1930. |
|---------|-----|---------------|---------------|
| Cattle | ... | 146,542 | 268,390 |
| Sheep | ... | 22,222 | 22,168 |
| Goats | ... | 96,568 | 138,344 |
| Horses | ... | 618 | 1,957 |
| Mules | ... | 76 | 128 |
| Donkeys | ... | 1,466 | 7,285 |
| Wagons | ... | 73 | 148 |
| Ploughs | ... | 2,708 | 7,032 |

The yield of maize and corn planted by natives is disappointing. The production was maize 5,465,600 lb., and corn 8,507,000 lb. The estimated native population is 120,000 and the above figures emphasize to what extent the natives are dependent on cereals grown or imported by Europeans.

EUROPEAN-OWNED STOCK, ETC.

| | | Census, 1921. | Census, 1930. |
|---------------------|-----|---------------|---------------|
| Cattle | ... | 63,749 | 65,214 |
| Sheep | ... | 6,000 | 10,483 |
| Horses | ... | 831 | 837 |
| Mules | ... | 208 | 360 |
| Donkeys | ... | 2,808 | 2,738 |
| Wagons and Trolleys | ... | (no record) | 363 |
| Tractors | ... | Nil. | 14 |
| Ploughs | ... | 686 | 901 |

Maize.—The acreage planted by Europeans was slightly less owing to the fact that more general farming is being adopted.

Cotton.—The yield was good and higher per acre and the quality showed an improvement. Unfortunately the price has dropped considerably and is about 5½d. per lb. of lint as compared with about 8d. per lb. last year. The improvement in the quality and yield is due to the jassid-resisting variety U.4, introduced by the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation. The work done by this Corporation has been of immense value to the Territory and is highly appreciated. About 9,000 acres were under cultivation, producing 3,224,182 pounds of cotton seed valued at £26,868.

Tobacco.—It is estimated that 580,000 lb. of tobacco were produced or an average of approximately 500 lb. per acre. The average is low owing to many small growers being unable to give the crop the necessary attention. An agreement was entered into between

the Administration and the Union Government providing for all sales of Swaziland tobacco in the Union to be made through the medium of Co-operative Societies. The Swaziland Co-operative Tobacco Company Limited has now been formed under the provisions of the Co-operative Societies (Swaziland) Proclamation, 1931, financial assistance having been supplied by the Government.

Beans.—This crop is being grown in greater acreage every year not only as a means of green manuring, but as a marketable crop.

Kaffir Corn, Monkey Nuts, and Potatoes were the other principal crops grown with an average yield. Unfortunately the price of all farm products, except tobacco, dropped to a point where production ceased to be profitable and the farmers suffered severely from the depression.

Fruit.—The young orchards, which were planted when the Road Motor Service throughout the Territory was inaugurated, are not yet at the export producing stage.

Dairying.—This branch of farming has improved since the Road Motor Service commenced and is likely to increase when farmers have been able to improve their herds. It is estimated that 33,870 lb. of cream were exported, of an approximate value of £675.

Coffee.—Many years ago coffee trees were planted by old residents and they seem to have grown well, many of the Dutch people obtaining their entire supply from their own trees. Seed selected in Kenya Colony has been grown and the trees distributed. It is too early yet to say what the results as a commercial crop may be.

Tea.—On the advice of Colonel Balfour, late Director of Irrigation, Ceylon, a quantity of tea seed has been obtained from Ceylon with a view to experimenting.

The usual Agricultural Shows were held at Bremersdorp and Hlatikulu. An encouraging feature of the former show was the increased interest taken by natives in their section.

NATIVE AGRICULTURE.

In order to help the natives to improve their methods trained native agricultural demonstrators have been engaged. These are men who have received training at native agricultural schools in the Union and have obtained diplomas in agriculture.

Arrangements have been made at five schools for giving instruction in agriculture to native scholars who have passed Standard IV.

Native Dairying.—Two dairies to which natives supply the milk were started in November. These dairies are under the supervision of a native agricultural demonstrator. So far the results have been fairly satisfactory.

(iii) Forestry.

The whole of the low veld is heavily bushed and isolated forests or "bushes" exist in kloofs in the Drakensberg range. There are

no indigenous timbers in sufficient quantities to repay exploitation commercially, except for rough purposes, such as timbering mines. Eucalyptus, conifers, and wattles thrive in the mountainous parts of the west and the agricultural census of August, 1930, showed 330, 50, and 2,420 acres respectively of these trees.

(iv) Mining.

Mining is carried out under the authority of concessions granted by the late Swazi king Mbandeni and under the Crown Minerals Order in Council.

Alluvial tin mining continued in the vicinity of Mbabane, but on a smaller scale owing to the low price of the metal. For the first year for many years no gold was won. In the north-western part of the territory a very valuable deposit of asbestos was discovered and the rights acquired by the New Amianthus Mines, Limited. Only development of the mine has taken place so far.

Up to the present, the Government has thrown open for prospecting areas aggregating 2,475 square miles, partly as Crown Mineral Areas and partly by consent of concessionaires under the Mineral Concession Areas Proclamation No. 47 of 1927.

The general depression of the mining industries has had a deterrent effect on all mining and prospecting.

The following is a summary of the products, quantities in pounds, and values, exported during the five years ended the 31st December, 1930 :—

| <i>Slaughter Cattle.</i> | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 1926. | 1927. | 1928. | 1929. | 1930. |
| lb. | 3,334,200 | 4,767,000 | 3,639,600 | 5,500,000 | 4,373,700 |
| £ | 44,456 | 63,560 | 54,594 | 85,000 | 50,763 |
| <i>Tobacco.</i> | | | | | |
| lb. | 780,000 | 1,262,500 | 1,283,250 | 1,068,400 | 578,330 |
| £ | 22,750 | 36,825 | 37,428 | 35,613 | 14,397 |
| <i>Cotton Seed.</i> | | | | | |
| lb. | 961,300 | 536,500 | 850,814 | 2,618,913 | 3,224,182 |
| £ | 13,900 | 11,270 | 13,785 | 37,961 | 26,868 |
| <i>Hides.</i> | | | | | |
| lb. | 135,000 | 243,770 | 368,400 | 434,840 | 208,140 |
| £ | 3,940 | 10,157 | 13,047 | 7,250 | 3,469 |
| <i>Metallic Tin.</i> | | | | | |
| lb. | 424,507 | 343,934 | 416,438 | 415,693 | 360,692 |
| £ | 52,947 | 42,776 | 39,703 | 38,692 | 23,414 |
| <i>Wattle Bark.</i> | | | | | |
| lb. | — | 1,194,000 | 1,239,000 | — | 2,274,500 |
| £ | — | 6,576 | 4,920 | — | 9,108 |

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

By an agreement with the Government of the Union of South Africa, dated 30th June, 1910, Swaziland is dealt with for Customs purposes as part of the Union.

Payments due to Swaziland are assessed on the proportion which the average of the collections for the three years ended 31st March, 1911, bears to the total Customs collections of the Union in each year. No statistics of imports are therefore kept.

The amounts received by Swaziland under the Customs Agreement during the last three financial years were as follows :—

| 1928-29. | 1929-30. | 1930-31. |
|----------|----------|----------|
| £ | £ | £ |
| 15,785 | 15,738 | 12,802 |

Collections in Swaziland in respect of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union are as follows :—

| 1928-29. | 1929-30. | 1930-31. |
|----------|----------|----------|
| £ | £ | £ |
| 1,284 | 1,396 | 1,385 |

The imports consist principally of maize, flour, groceries, wearing apparel, kaffir truck, hardware, machinery, building material, etc., most of which are imported from the Union of South Africa through wholesale firms established there. The principal exports are enumerated under section III above.

The cotton is exported to the United Kingdom, tin through the Union to the Straits Settlements, and all other commodities to the Union of South Africa.

The volume of trade was fair during the year under review. Average native crops were reaped. Farmers obtained fair prices for their maize. The prices of foodstuffs were not excessive.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The following motor vehicles were in use in the Territory during the year :—

| | British makes. | Makes of other countries. |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Private cars ... | 29 | 244 |
| Commercial cars ... | 5 | 37 |
| | 34 | 281 |

All transport, both out of and into the Territory, is by road and connects on the south, south-west, west, and north with railheads in the Transvaal at Gollé, Piet Retief, Breyten, and Hectorspruit, respectively, and on the east with Goba in Portuguese East Africa.

The Motor Transport Service inaugurated in 1928 by the South African Railways Administration maintains a daily or bi-weekly service with all but the last mentioned of the railheads in the Transvaal. In February, 1930, the Portuguese East African Administration opened a daily motor service between Goba railhead and Stegi in Swaziland, the latter village being the eastern terminus of the South African Railway Motor Service.

The following tables show the traffic handled in the Territory and to and from the various railheads.

| Area with Depot at Bremersdorp. | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------|----------------|--|
| Year. | Passengers carried. | | Goods handled. | |
| | European. | Native. | Tons. | |
| 1928 ... | 4,818 | 13,759 | 5,388 | |
| 1929 ... | 4,499 | 19,736 | 6,875 | |
| 1930 ... | 3,694 | 23,682 | 8,519 | |

| Area with Depot at Hlatikulu. | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------|----------------|--|
| Year. | Passengers carried. | | Goods handled. | |
| | European. | Native. | Tons. | |
| 1928 ... | 839 | 2,958 | 391 | |
| 1929 ... | 1,361 | 7,664 | 1,055 | |
| 1930* ... | 1,815 | 11,664 | 1,559 | |

| Area with Depot at Goba (opened in February, 1930). | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------|----------------|--|
| Year. | Passengers carried. | | Goods handled. | |
| | European. | Native. | Tons. | |
| 1930 (11 months) | 185 | 243 | 1,264 | |

With the advent, in 1927, of the railway to Gollé on the south-eastern border, direct communication by road was opened with Bremersdorp, and since that time the weight of goods handled at Gollé railhead is shown as follows:—

| Year. | Goods Out. | | Goods In. | |
|----------|------------|--|-----------|--|
| | Tons. | | Tons. | |
| 1928 ... | 82 | | 1,077 | |
| 1929 ... | 837 | | 1,778 | |
| 1930 ... | 762 | | 1,776 | |

This heavy and fast traffic has called for better construction and maintenance methods for the roads, of which 280 miles are used by the Motor Services. The employment of modern road-making machinery has, however, enabled a decided improvement in the state of the main roads to be effected. River crossings consist of three high level bridges, five low level bridges and eleven concrete causeways, almost all of which have been constructed in the last three years.

* During this year a bi-weekly service to Hluti was opened.

The charges made by the Motor Services are:—

Passenger fares, 3d. per mile for Europeans and 1½d. per mile for natives.

Goods are carried, on a sliding scale, from 3d. for 5 miles to 2s. 6d. for 100 miles, per 100 lb.

In addition to the Motor Service routes there are some 500 miles of other roads which, except during heavy rain, are passable by motor traffic.

The Postal Services are, by agreement, controlled by the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa but are paid for from Swaziland funds. The postal, telegraphic, and other charges are the same as in the Union. A Post Office electrician is now stationed in Swaziland and he is responsible for the maintenance of all lines and local exchanges. Formerly this work called for frequent and special visits by a Post Office electrician from outside the Territory.

Telegraphic communication which, until this year, was available only between Mbabane and the Transvaal has now been extended to Bremersdorp. All district offices, except that at Mankaiana, are connected by telephone with Government headquarters at Mbabane and there are branch lines to, or call offices at, the more closely settled areas throughout the Territory.

A comparison over a number of years of the cost of running the Postal Services with the revenue derived therefrom is as follows:—

| Year. | Expenditure. | | Revenue. | |
|---------------|--------------|--|----------|--|
| | £ | | £ | |
| 1922-1923 ... | 3,377 | | 2,415 | |
| 1923-1924 ... | 3,237 | | 2,729 | |
| 1924-1925 ... | 3,384 | | 3,176 | |
| 1925-1926 ... | 3,215 | | 3,359 | |
| 1926-1927 ... | 3,354 | | 3,213 | |
| 1927-1928 ... | 3,151 | | 3,378 | |
| 1928-1929 ... | 3,332 | | 3,842 | |
| 1929-1930 ... | 3,815 | | 4,144 | |

These figures indicate that while the maintenance expenditure has remained fairly steady, the revenue, with the exception of the year 1926-1927, continues to increase and since that year has been greater than the expenditure.

There are no wireless or air-service stations in the Territory but the question of preparing landing grounds for aeroplanes is under consideration.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

In 1912 a Special Court was established, with an Advocate of the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa as President. The other members of the Court consist of the Resident Commissioner, the Deputy Resident Commissioner, and the

The erection of a new Government hospital was commenced at Mbabane to replace the old hospital. The Mankaiiana Government dispensary was supplied with equipment and can now take emergency admissions.

The Mission hospital at Bremersdorp was improved by the addition of an X-ray plant and a motor ambulance and the Mission sent out a second doctor to assist. The Mission hospital at Mahamba continues to do good work. There are also Mission dispensaries at Stegi, Pigg's Peak, and Endingeni. The Medical Missions all receive Government subsidies and form a valuable aid to the official medical service. Four native probationer nurses are being trained at the Bremersdorp hospital, the Government making a special grant to the Mission for the purpose.

An addition has been made to the medical staff by the appointment of a doctor with a degree in Public Health. He is stationed at Bremersdorp, and will be available for public health duties all over the Territory.

Eight doctors were in practice at the end of the year.

Two dentists were registered for practice in Swaziland but neither of them resides in the Territory.

One chemist was in practice at the end of the year.

The following figures show the number of cases treated at the various centres :—

| <i>Government Institutions.</i> | <i>In-Patients.</i> | <i>Out-Patients.</i> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Mbabane Hospital | 229 | 6,701 |
| Hlatikulu Hospital | 130 | 5,107 |
| Mankaiiana Dispensary | Nil. | 984 |
| <i>Mission Institutions.</i> | | |
| Bremersdorp Hospital | 328 | 4,662 |
| Mahamba Hospital | 248 | 1,936 |
| Endingeni Dispensary | 33 | 2,352 |
| Pigg's Peak Dispensary | 25 | 2,220 |
| Stegi Dispensary | 20 | 1,385 |
| | 1,013 | 25,347 |

IX.—EDUCATION.

Secondary education is given at St. Mark's School, Mbabane, which is aided by an annual grant from the Government.

New buildings are being erected for the school, the foundation stone of which was laid in November by the Honourable P. Duncan, K.C., C.M.G., M.P. The cost of the new buildings is being met by means of a grant and a loan from the Rhodes' Trustees, a loan from the Provincial Council of Education (an English Church organization) and public subscriptions.

There are twelve Government primary schools in the Territory. The average attendance during the last three years was as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1928 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 499 |
| 1929 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 502 |
| 1930 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 435 |

The average attendance at the two schools for coloured children for the same period was as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1928 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 60 |
| 1929 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 163 |
| 1930 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 146 |

The average attendance at the Zombode native school for the same period was :—

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1928 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 97 |
| 1929 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 111 |
| 1930 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 125 |

The average attendance at the subsidized Mission schools was 6,026. These figures do not include a number of children being taught at Mission schools which, owing to their low standard, are not being supported financially by the Administration.

All European schools have been inspected twice by the Inspector of Education and the examination results, based on the Transvaal examinations, show that work is improving.

The Native School Supervisor has visited all native schools. In April, the scheme whereby the teachers' salaries at approved native Mission schools are paid out of the Government grant was authorized, and the expenditure on grants to native Missions of an amount of £2,500 from general revenue was approved in addition to a sum of £1,000 from the Swazi National Fund.

Two meetings were held of the Board of Advice on Native Education.

Some of the buildings at the new Swazi National School have been completed and a start made with the work of the institution. The cost of the new school is being paid from the Swazi National Fund. The school was visited by the High Commissioner in August.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEYS.

Title to land in Swaziland is freehold, subject to the mineral rights which are in some cases owned by concessionaires and in others by the Crown.

Land registration is effected in the Swaziland Deeds Office under the charge of the Registrar of Deeds for the Transvaal, and surveys are controlled by the Surveyor-General for the Transvaal, also at Pretoria. All land and mineral concessions and the native areas were surveyed during the years 1904 to 1908, and since then many sub-divisional surveys of private and Crown Lands have been carried out.

At the five townships, Mbabane, Bremersdorp, Hlatikulu, Goedegun, and Stegi, several lots were sold for residential and trading purposes, the largest number being sold at Bremersdorp.

No surveys of importance were undertaken.

No geological survey of the Territory has been made.

XI.—LABOUR.

Labour was plentiful for farming, mining, road making, and domestic purposes, on reasonable scales of wages.

Farmers who grow cotton experienced no difficulty in engaging a sufficient number of native women and girls for cotton picking at the required time.

Natives desiring to enter into contracts as labourers on the mines in the Union continued to take advantage of the deferred-pay system, the sum of £8,251 being paid out, as compared with £7,774 in 1929. The number of passes issued was 5,465 to recruited labourers and 8,593 to those desiring to travel outside the Territory, generally to seek work on farms.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The principal legislation consisted of the following Proclamations :

- (1) No. 4 of 1930, Inquest Law Amendment.
- (2) No. 14 of 1930, Motor Vehicle Further Amendment.
- (3) No. 18 of 1930, Income Tax (Super Tax).

New Regulations regarding public health, buildings, etc., were published under High Commissioner's Notice No. 139 of 1930.

J. R. ARMSTRONG,

Acting Government Secretary.

MBABANE, SWAZILAND.

9th July, 1931.

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